

LONA LANE

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January 15, 2010

Dear Neighbor,

I'm writing to tell you about a significant project coming to S. Springfield Avenue from 81st Place to 82nd Street and S. Hamlin Avenue from 82nd Street to 84th Street. This is good for everyone who lives in the vicinity, but it will require some adjustment as the work goes forward.

I have asked Water Management Commissioner John Spatz to provide full information packets to neighbors along the way.

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If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call my office. Together, we can all work to make this a model of community building in both the literal and figurative senses.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Lona Lane

18th Ward Alderman

LL/ml





WATER MANAGEMENT CUSTOMER NOTICE

At Alderman Lane's suggestion, I'm writing to introduce a full packet of information on the sewer construction project coming to W. 82nd Street, S. Springfield Avenue, and S. Hamlin Avenue. We want to make certain you are fully informed and know how to get any questions answered or concerns addressed.

I have asked our project managers to assemble this packet of information for your use. I have also instructed all concerned that we must conduct ourselves as good neighbors—however temporary—during the term of this project. This means respecting and enhancing your "quality of life" whenever possible. While heavy construction always involves some noise and dust, we will do everything possible to maintain a clean and safe work site.

Please feel free to call Assistant Commissioner Tom LaPorte (312-742-1029) at any time with concerns or questions. He will either be able to address your concern, or bring it directly to me.

Thank you, in advance, for your patience and good will.

Sincerely

John F. Spatz, Jr. Commissioner





Do you wonder what was happening in 1915? That's the year the old sewer main was installed beneath your street. Among other things:



BILLIE HOLIDAY

- The U.S. House of Representatives rejected a proposal granting women the right to vote.
- In Washington D.C., the first stone of the Lincoln Memorial was put into place.
- Pluto was photographed for the first time, but not recognized as a planet.
- John B. Gruelle was given a patent for his Raggedy Ann doll.
- American jazz and blues singer Billie Holiday was born.
- The first stop sign appeared in Detroit, Michigan.
- Woodrow Wilson became the first President to attend a World Series game.





W. 82nd Street/S. Springfield Avenue/S. Hamlin Avenue

SEWER PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project: The Chicago Department of Water Management will install a new sewer in W. 82nd Street (S. Pulaski Road to S. Hamlin Avenue), S. Springfield Avenue (W. 82nd Street to W. 81st Place) and in S. Hamlin Avenue (W. 82nd Street to W. 84th Street).

Reason: The old sewer pipe dates back to 1915 and needs to be replaced. The area bounded by 81st Place on the north, Hamlin Avenue on the east, 83rd Street on the south, and Pulaski Road on the west will benefit from improved drainage and reduced risk of flooding.

Timing: Work will begin shortly, if it hasn't already, with completion of the project scheduled for July. Restoration of the street and damaged sidewalks/parkways will follow. Dates may change depending on weather and other factors. If there is any appreciable change, we will notify you.

Traffic: We will have closures to "through traffic". Our excavation and the equipment involved all take up space, and safety, of course, is the foremost consideration. You will always have access to your property.

Parking: We will post our work area for "No Parking" as needed, during work hours. We are agreeable to parking outside of those hours, but will have to insist that cars be moved by the start of the next workday. We will try to preserve as much parking as we can.

CONTACT NUMBERS

24-HOUR SERVICE AND INFORMATION LINE 3-1-1

ALDERMAN LONA LANE 773-471-1991

ASSISTANT WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSIONER TOM LAPORTE 312-742-1029





W. 82nd Street/S. Springfield Avenue/S. Hamlin Avenue

SEWER PROJECT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will our sewer or water service be interrupted? Neither should be. But we can't be absolutely certain. Whenever you are doing heavy construction, there are bound to be surprises. Sometimes we find a water service from a house well away from where our records indicate it is. Sometimes, old pipes are brittle and prone to breaking when there is the vibration of digging.

Will I get notice if there is a shutdown? We will try to give you notice prior to a shutdown. But it all depends on the circumstances. If necessary, we will perform the emergency shutdown immediately and then tell you about it. Safety and avoiding property damage are prime considerations.

What about restoration of curb and parkway damage? When we finish the job, we will pave the street and address curb and parkway issues. We promise to leave your parkway and curb at least as good as we found them.

What about improvements I've made in the parkway? If there are ornamental plants, brickwork, sprinkling systems, etc., in your parkway, we certainly try to avoid them. The City of Chicago, however, cannot assume responsibility for privately made improvements. We will work with you to avoid any problems along these lines.

Why should I be nice about this? We are renewing your neighborhood and helping reduce the risk of local flooding during heavy rain. We intend to be good neighbors, although we are aware that our work is inherently disruptive. We will work with neighbors, Alderman Lane, and others, to ensure that this disruption is minimal and that the experience is as agreeable as possible.